

What is claimed is:

1. A tubular sleeve, comprising:
  - a base portion having a tapered shape and a lower end and sized to contain a pot;
  - an upper portion detachable from the base portion via a detaching element; and
  - a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, with the decorative pattern having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the detaching element and the base portion having a zone between the detaching element and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the base portion and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary.
2. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the upper portion is sized to substantially surround and enclose a floral grouping disposed within the pot.
3. The tubular sleeve of claim 2 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

4. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

5. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

6. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the lower end of the base portion has a gusset therein.

7. The tubular sleeve of claim 1 wherein the tubular sleeve initially has a flattened state.

8. A tubular sleeve for decoratively covering a pot having an upper rim, the tubular sleeve comprising:

a base portion having a tapered shape, an upper edge, a lower end, and a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent a portion of the base portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the upper edge of the base portion, and the base

portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary.

9. The tubular sleeve of claim 8 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

10. The tubular sleeve of claim 8 wherein the lower end of the base portion has a gusset therein.

11. The tubular sleeve of claim 8 wherein the tubular sleeve initially has a flattened state.

12. A tubular sleeve, comprising:

a base portion sized to contain a pot and having a gusset in a lower end thereof;

an upper portion detachable from the base portion via a detaching element; and

a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, with the decorative pattern having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the detaching element, and the base portion having a zone between the detaching element and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the base portion and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary.

13. The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the upper portion is sized to substantially surround and enclose a floral grouping disposed within the pot.

14. The tubular sleeve of claim 13 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

15. The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the upper portion is adapted to suspend the tubular sleeve from a support element.

16. The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion

comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

17. The tubular sleeve of claim 12 wherein the tubular sleeve initially has a flattened state.

18. A tubular sleeve for decoratively covering a pot, comprising:   
a base portion sized to contain a pot and having an upper edge and having a gusset in a lower end thereof, and a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the upper edge of the base portion, and the base portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary.

19. The tubular sleeve of claim 18 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally

within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

20. A plant package, comprising:

a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve, comprising:

a base portion having a tapered shape and a lower end and sized to contain the pot;

an upper portion detachable from the base portion via a detaching element; and

a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, with the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the detaching element and the base portion having a zone between the detaching element and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the base portion wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary.

21. The plant package of claim 20 wherein the upper portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to substantially surround and enclose the floral grouping disposed within the pot.

22. The plant package of claim 20 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

23. The plant package of claim 20 wherein the lower end of the base portion of the tubular sleeve has a gusset therein.

24. A plant package, comprising:

a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve comprising:

    a base portion having tapered shape, an upper edge,  
    a lower end, and a decorative pattern or coloring  
    disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base  
    portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having  
    a non-linear upper boundary positioned below

the upper edge of the base portion, and the base portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary.

25. The plant package of claim 24 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

26. The plant package of claim 24 wherein the lower end of the base portion of the tubular sleeve has a gusset therein.

27. A plant package, comprising:

a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular

sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve,

comprising:

a base portion sized to contain the pot and having a

gusset in a lower end thereof;

an upper portion detachable from the base portion via

a detaching element; and

a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or

inherent to a portion of the base portion, with

the decorative pattern having a non-linear upper

boundary positioned below the detaching

element, and the base portion having a zone

between the detaching element and the

non-linear upper boundary of the decorative

pattern or coloring of the portion of the base

portion and wherein the zone is free of the

decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-

linear upper boundary.

28. The plant package of claim 27 wherein the upper portion of the tubular sleeve is sized to substantially surround and enclose the floral grouping disposed within the pot.

29. The plant package of claim 27 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the detaching element and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the detaching element.

30. A plant package, comprising: ✓  
a potted plant comprising a pot and a floral grouping, and a tubular sleeve disposed about the potted plant, the tubular sleeve, comprising:  
a base portion sized to contain the pot and having an upper edge, a gusset in a lower end thereof, and a decorative pattern or coloring disposed on or inherent to a portion of the base portion, the decorative pattern or coloring having a non-linear upper boundary positioned below the upper edge of the base portion, and the base

portion having a zone between the upper edge of the base portion and the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the non-linear upper boundary.

31. The plant package of claim 30 wherein the non-linear upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the portion of the base portion of the tubular sleeve comprises a plurality of peaks and troughs wherein the peaks are generally within 0 mm to about 25 mm of the upper edge of the base portion and the troughs are generally about 10 mm to about 60 mm below the upper edge of the base portion.

32. A method of covering a pot having an upper rim and containing a  plant, comprising:

providing a sleeve initially having a flattened condition, the sleeve comprising a lower portion, and an upper portion extending from the lower portion and detachable therefrom via a detaching element, and wherein the lower portion has a decorative pattern or coloring which has an arcuate upper boundary, and wherein the detaching element is above the

arcuate upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring, and the lower portion having a zone between the arcuate upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and the detaching element and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the arcuate upper boundary; and

placing the pot containing the plant into the lower portion of the sleeve.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein the upper portion of the sleeve is sized to substantially surround and encompass the plant within the pot, and wherein the plant extends a distance vertically above the upper rim of the pot.

34. The method of claim 32 comprising the additional step of detaching the upper portion from the lower portion before the pot is placed within the lower portion of the sleeve.

35. The method of claim 32 comprising the additional step of detaching the upper portion from the lower portion after the pot is placed within the lower portion of the sleeve.

36. The method of claim 32 wherein the upper portion is adapted to support the sleeve from a wicket device.

37. The method of claim 32 wherein the detaching element on the sleeve comprises a generally horizontal line positioned above the arcuate upper boundary of the decorative pattern on the lower portion.

38. The method of claim 32 wherein the detaching element generally corresponds to the arcuate upper boundary of the decorative pattern on the lower portion.

39. The method of claim 32 wherein the arcuate upper boundary of the decorative pattern is adjacent a lower end of the plant.

40. The method of claim 32 wherein the lower portion of the sleeve is tapered to fit the pot.

41. The method of claim 32 wherein the sleeve is shaped to conform to the shape of the pot.

42. The method of claim 32 wherein the upper end of the sleeve comprises a bonding material thereon for sealing the upper end.

43. The method of claim 32 wherein the sleeve comprises a side gusset and a bottom gusset such that the sleeve in the opened condition conforms to the shape of a pot having a rectangular shape.

44. The method of claim 32 wherein the sleeve has a straight sealed lower end.

45. The method of claim 32 wherein the sleeve has a gusset in the lower end.

46. The method of claim 32 wherein the sleeve comprises a skirt portion which extends at an angle from the lower portion beyond the upper rim of the pot.

47. The method of claim 32 wherein the sleeve further comprises a bonding material on an inner surface thereof.

48. The method of claim 32 wherein the detaching element is a line of perforations.

49. A method of covering a pot having an upper rim and containing a plant therein, comprising:

providing a sleeve initially having a flattened condition and comprising an upper end and a lower end and the sleeve having a decorative pattern or coloring which has an arcuate upper boundary, and wherein the upper end is horizontally oriented and positioned above the arcuate upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring of the sleeve, and the sleeve having a zone between the arcuate upper boundary of the decorative pattern or coloring and the upper end and wherein the zone is free of the decorative pattern or coloring forming the arcuate upper boundary; and

placing the pot into the sleeve.

50. The method of claim 49 wherein the sleeve further comprises a gusset in the lower end thereof.

51. The method of claim 49 wherein the zone of the sleeve is adapted to support the sleeve on a wicket device.

52. The method of claim 49 wherein the lower portion of the sleeve is tapered to fit the pot.

53. The method of claim 49 wherein the sleeve is shaped to conform to the shape of the pot.

54. The method of claim 49 wherein the sleeve comprises a side gusset and a bottom gusset such that the sleeve in the opened condition conforms to the shape of the pot wherein the pot has a rectangular shape.

55. The method of claim 49 wherein the sleeve has a straight sealed lower end.

56. The method of claim 49 wherein the sleeve comprises a skirt portion which extends at an angle from the lower portion beyond the rim of the pot.

57. The method of claim 49 wherein the sleeve further comprises a bonding material on an inner surface thereof.